

27 July 2006

President of -- University

Dear Dr --,

As a United States Senator, and Chairman of the Senate Subcommittee on Federal Financial Management, Government Information, and International Security, I retain oversight over the effectiveness and efficiency of Federal financial management, as well as the collection of statistics.

In my role as Chairman of the Federal Financial Management Subcommittee, I work hard to shepherd taxpayer dollars to achieve the best possible outcomes. As a practicing physician, I also know the value of good scientific research – and what that research can mean to a sick or hurting individual. I also know that many institutions such as yours play a significant role in the process of fostering the ideas, supporting the individuals and conducting the research that often translates into life-changing innovations and discoveries. It is because of your role in this process that I am reaching out to you for some helpful feedback. I would greatly appreciate your consideration of the following questions, and I look forward to receiving your response.

- 1) Please provide a list of all appropriations received by your institution from the year 2000 to present, and the amount of assistance received.
- 2) Please provide a summary of the specific objectives or goals set to be achieved by any entity, program, project or service associated with an appropriation at your institution, and, for each appropriation, a list of accomplishments that can be attributed to the project, entity, program or service (e.g. published peer-reviewed research, etc., depending on the nature of the earmarks your institution has received).
- 3) How does your institution set a measure for standards to achieve quality and outcomes for entities, programs, projects or services receiving assistance through earmarks or appropriations?
- 4) Does your institution have a stated policy regarding Congressional earmarks or appropriations (if so, please describe)? Does your institution have a policy regarding partnering in research projects with other universities who may have a differing policy?

- 5) Has your institution considered hiring a lobbyist to assist your institution in attaining familiarity with the opportunities that may exist to obtain Federal funds for research – such as the earmarking process?
- 6) In conclusion, do you find congressionally earmarked funds to have contributed in a substantive way to your academic institution?

Thank you for your prompt assistance regarding this matter. If at all possible, I would greatly appreciate receiving your response by September 1, 2006.

Sincerely,

Tom Coburn, MD
Chairman
Subcommittee on
Federal Financial Management, Government
Information, and International Security